PATENT

TH**K** UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

George Goicoechea et al.

PROSTHESIS

Art Unit: 3308 Corres. and Mail Examiner: M. Milano

Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

: Expedited Procedure

R13/24-91

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Box: AF

SIR:

Responsive to the Final Official Action dated April 21, 1997, Applicants have amended the application as follows and provide the subsequent remarks. The amendments place the application in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 59, 65, and 66 as follows.

- 59. (Twice Amended) A bifurcated prosthesis for use near an 1
 - angeological bifurcation of a blood vessel into two branched vessels comprising a
- bifurcated proximal stent portion adapted to be disposed within said blood vessel, a first 3
- distal stent portion adapted to extend across the bifurcation into one of the branched 4
- 5 vessels, and a second distal stent portion shorter than said first distal stent portion and
- configured to be disposed entirely within said blood vessel [adapted to allow blood to 6
- flow from the proximal portion into the other branched vessel], and a graft layer 7
- formed from a bio-compatible fabric disposed in juxtaposition with said bifurcated 8
- 9 stent.

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